

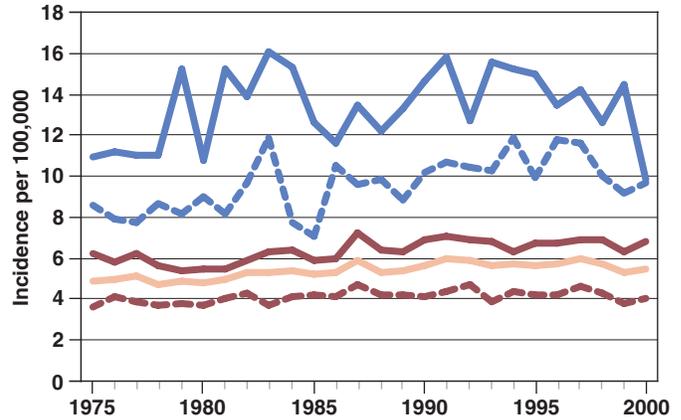
## Incidence and Mortality Rate Trends

Myeloma, also known as multiple myeloma or plasma cell myeloma, is the second most common blood cancer, and comprises approximately one percent of all cancers. Unfortunately, there has been little change in the overall incidence rate of myeloma, and the mortality rate has increased over the past three decades. The incidence rate is higher in men than women. Myeloma is more common among the elderly, and African Americans have approximately double the incidence and mortality rates of Whites.

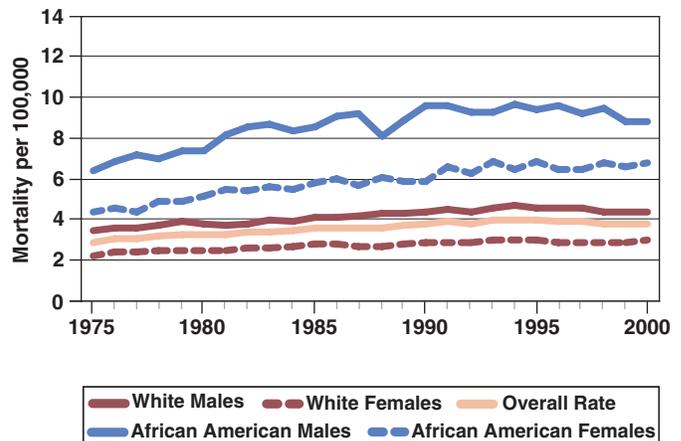
Source for incidence and mortality data: Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program and the National Center for Health Statistics. Additional statistics and charts are available at:

[http://seer.cancer.gov/faststats/html/inc\\_mulmy.html](http://seer.cancer.gov/faststats/html/inc_mulmy.html)  
[http://seer.cancer.gov/faststats/html/mor\\_mulmy.html](http://seer.cancer.gov/faststats/html/mor_mulmy.html)

U.S. Myeloma Incidence



U.S. Myeloma Mortality

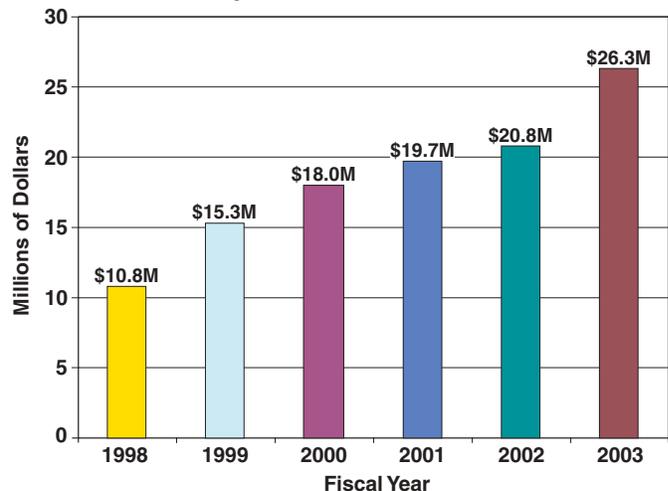


## Trends in NCI Funding for Myeloma Research

The National Cancer Institute's (NCI's) investment in myeloma research has increased from \$10.8 million in fiscal year 1998 to \$26.3 million in fiscal year 2003.

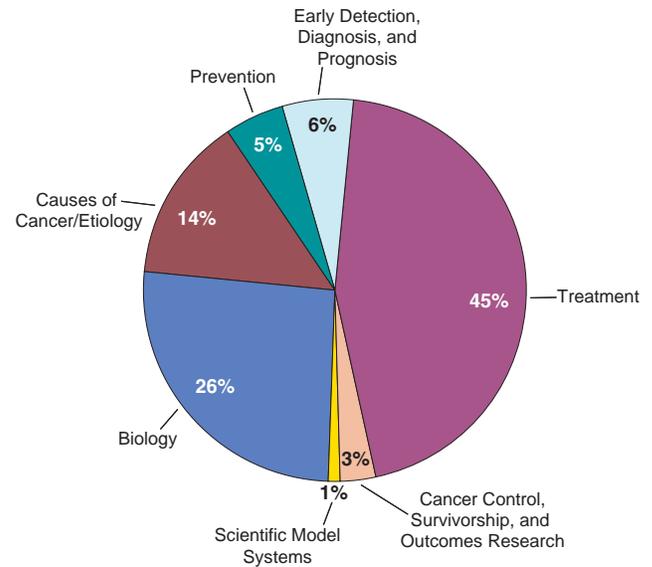
Source: NCI Financial Management Branch  
<http://www3.cancer.gov/admin/fmb>

NCI Myeloma Research Investment



## NCI Myeloma Research Portfolio

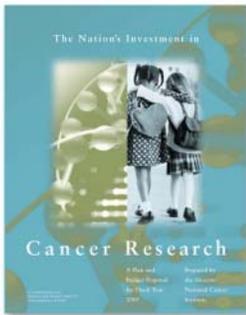
The pie chart shows the distribution of NCI myeloma research dollars by scientific area for fiscal year 2002. Such portfolio analyses along with the recommendations of the Progress Review Groups (PRGs) are used to (1) identify research gaps, (2) develop strategic plans that will address future research needs, and (3) track and assess progress.



**NCI Myeloma Research Portfolio\***  
Percentage of Total Dollars by Scientific Area  
Fiscal Year 2002

\*A description of the relevant research projects can be found at the NCI Cancer Research Portfolio website at <http://researchportfolio.cancer.gov>.

## Examples of NCI Research Initiatives Relevant to Myeloma



- The myeloma-specific **Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE)** is moving results from the laboratory to the clinical setting. <http://spores.nci.nih.gov/current/myeloma/myeloma.html>
- The **Leukemia, Lymphoma, and Myeloma (LLM) PRG**, a panel of prominent scientists and patient advocates, assessed the state of the science and identified future research priorities. <http://prg.cancer.gov>
- The **Academic-Public-Private-Partnership Program (AP4)**, a new initiative that is the direct result of PRG recommendations, will support the discovery of new therapeutic agents for orphan cancers, including hematologic cancers, and their rapid translation to human trials. <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-04-005.html>
- The **Multiple Myeloma Prevention Study** is under way to evaluate use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for the modulation of biomarkers associated with MGUS (monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance)/smoldering myeloma.
- The **Molecular Interactions between Tumor Cells and Bone** initiative is designed to better understand the pathophysiology of bone metastasis for cancers, such as myeloma, that commonly metastasize to bone. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-03-013.html>
- A myeloma patterns-of-care study is under way in the **Patterns of Care/Quality of Care Program (POC/QOC)**, an initiative aimed at evaluating and improving the dissemination of recommended treatment. <http://healthservices.cancer.gov/surveys/poc/>
- The **Multiple Myeloma/Other Plasma Cell Neoplasms Home Page** directs visitors to up-to-date information on myeloma treatment, prevention, genetics, causes, and other topics. <http://cancer.gov/CancerInformation/CancerType/plasmacellneoplasm>